



Western Library System Helping libraries serve our communities.

July/Aug. 2017

From Western Library System Board President, Maryruth Reed

Thank you to all of you who came to the WLS annual meeting July 18. If you've never been to "The Most Unlikely Place" in Lewellen, and didn't make it to the meeting, it is well worth a special trip to this fascinating art gallery/restaurant. It shows how a few interested people have revitalized a town that many would characterize as a wide spot in the road. That gives hope to lots of our small towns who struggle with their identity. Jan Jolliffe was there greeting as many attendees as she could. As she starts to travel out to our extended system, I know you will welcome her, and hopefully be as impressed with her as those of us who have worked with her already are.

At the Board meeting following the annual meeting, election of officers resulted in those of us who were serving as officers being re-elected for another year. We also approved a budget that includes money for another author tour this fall/winter. Children's authors seem to get the best response, so if you have a favorite author, let Jan know, so she can start researching the costs involved.

This is a great board to work with. Even though we don't always agree, we are able to come to a consensus, respecting each other's views even if they don't match our own. We welcomed Robin Quinn (via Skype) from District E, and hope this method of including people who would otherwise have long drives proves to be workable.

And finally, thanks again to Pat Gross (winner of the Maryruth Reed First Last and Only Presidential Award For Making Her Job Easier While We Searched For A New Director) for coming out of retirement to serve as interim director, giving the board time to wait for just the right person to apply for the job. I think we've found that person in Jan – I hope you agree.

My First Month in Paradise"

by Jan Jolliffe

Wow, talk about a whirlwind in paradise! With the help of a wonderful mentor, and your past Interim Director, Pat Gross, this has been a fast and furious first month here at the Western Library System. Since beginning June 26, I've had the pleasure of interacting with many fabulous librarians, directors, board members, friends of the library and patrons of all ages. I've seen excellent programs and activities happening at our libraries, and learned first-hand how every single one of you are making a difference in someone's life. My visit with the Nebraska Library Commission provided immense insight into the invaluable resources that Nebraska libraries have to offer our communities, along with the immaculate planning and detail needed to provide for the promotion, development and coordination of library and information services.

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*"I have always
imagined that
Paradise will be
a kind of library."*

Jorge Luis Borges

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The idea that a library could be considered a paradise seems appropriate, having come from a family of teachers, entrepreneurs and curious learners. Concluding early on that knowledge and inquiry were the keys to personal and professional success, libraries and librarians have always been at the core of many invaluable experiences in my life. They are the hub of my world; I've gained many lifelong friendships, and my life has been shaped in many distinct ways by joining the ranks of our close-knit library community. It is my belief that in order to have a fulfilling life, it is necessary to share our experiences, offer insight into what we have learned, and give back to our communities.

This new adventure as the Western Library System Director offers me the potential to fulfill many needs within a multitude of communities and individuals' lives. This truly is paradise at its best, and I am honored to begin my career and set down permanent roots within the heartland of Nebraska and our many libraries throughout this beautiful state. I'd like to give a huge heartfelt thank you to Rod Wagner, Maryruth Reed, along with the committee that selected me to begin this new adventure, and I'm looking forward to meeting and working alongside the librarians and communities I'll be serving. Thanks to all for offering up this slice of paradise to me, along with my family! - Jan Jolliffe -

August Display Ideas

August is a time for preparation. It is time to preserve the produce from the bountiful gardens by canning or freezing in order to prepare for winter. Display your cookbooks that are dedicated to food preservation and jelly-making along with mason jars, a strainer, a big kettle, and a long-handled spoon. It is also a time to get ready for school to start. Gather the books in your children's area that have school, kindergarten, or teacher in the title and set them together on a shelf or a table. Here are some display and program ideas for August.

Celebrate the "Dog Days of Summer"

Make a display that includes dog bones, pet toys, paw prints, and all of your books about dogs, both fiction and nonfiction, from the children's and adult's areas. Request donations of dog food and treats for your local pet shelter.

National Peach Month

Hold a screening of Disney's *James and the Giant Peach* on a day before school starts and serve peach-flavored refreshments.

Watermelon Day (August 3)

Display all your children's picture books about watermelon. Then, take your Preschool Story Time outside. Serve juicy slices of watermelon and read aloud Greg Pizzoli's *The Watermelon Seed*.

Friendship Day (August 6)

Encourage everyone to make a new friend today. Display your books with the word "friend" in the title and books about friends (my first thought was about Frog and Toad...they're friends, right?).

Kool-Aid Days (August 11-13, 2017)

Get ready for a Very Berry Kool-Aid Days Bash in Hastings this year. There will be great family fun all week-end long—featuring the World's Largest Kool-Aid Stand. Display information about this event along with Kool-Aid packets and pitchers. You could even serve Kool-Aid to your patrons. They are sure to be delighted. Kool-Aid has played a part in summer for children across the nation...and it started right here in Nebraska!

Julia Child's Birthday (August 15, 1912)

America's beloved food authority, who didn't take a cooking lesson until she was in her 30s, was born in Pasadena, CA. Child's cookbooks and television shows encouraged Americans to cook and eat well and to be skeptical of food fads and diet strictures. "Cooking is not a chore; it is a joy." Display cookbooks including those by Julia Child with mixing bowls, wooden spoons, and whisks.

Judy Schachner's Birthday (August 20, 1951)

Place a poster on the shelf with her Skippyjon Jones books to commemorate Judy's birthday. You could go on an adventure with your Story Time preschoolers by reading one of the many books in her popular series.

Frankenstein Day (August 30)

Celebrate the birth of Frankenstein author Mary Shelley (born August 30, 1797) and her creation of one of the most iconic monsters by making some Frank-inspired treats.

Upcoming NCompass Live

Mark Your Calendar

Public Library Accreditation process begins in **July** with completed Accreditation Applications **due October 1, 2017**. Information found in this newsletter on pages 4 & 5.

The Summer Reading, NEST 529 Read to Win Contest will run **May 15, 2017 through August 23, 2017**. The deadline to submit names is **11:59:59 p.m., CT, on August 25, 2017**. see page 8 of May/June *Western Sun* newsletter.

Eclipse of the Sun

August 21, 2017
Checkout NCompass archived recording on July 26. See page 14.

23rd Annual Youth Services

Retreat Sept. 7 - 8 (11 CE credits for attendance both days) at Carol Joy Holling Camp outside Ashland, NE
See pages 17 & 18.

Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund Short applications received on or before October 1, 2017 will be considered for the grant cycle awarded in March 2018.

[Funding Website](#)

NLA/NSLA Fall Conference

Oct 11-13 Kearney
"PROVIDING ACCESS to the GOOD LIFE. FOR ALL."
Younes Conference Center
[Information](#) See page 6.



Upcoming NCompass Live events:

- July 26 – Solar Eclipse 2017 @ Your Library
- Aug. 2 – Connecting Students to Courses, Experts, and Virtual Field Trips
- Aug. 9 – The 2017 Public Library Accreditation Process
- Aug. 16 – United for Libraries – Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations: The Voice for America's Libraries
- Aug. 23 – How to Break Up Boredom! Interactive Events for All Ages

NCompass Live is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am Mountain Time.

For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians 2017 Schedule

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
8/21 - 9/1	Programming & Outreach	Anneka Ramirez	7/24 - 8/10
9/11 - 9/22	The Community and the Library*	Sam Shaw	8/14 - 8/31
9/25 - 10/6	Management and Supervision	Scott Childers	8/28 - 9/14
10/16-10/27	Leadership	Anneka Ramirez	9/18 - 10/5
11/6 - 11/17	Library Service to Children & Youth	Sally Snyder	10/2 - 10/26

(* Requisite class)

Register on the Nebraska Library Commission [Training and Events Calendar](#).

[Description of Basic Skills courses](#)

[Basic Skills Planner](#)--for program participants to keep track of their progress

For further information, contact [Holli Duggan](#), NLC Continuing Education Coordinator.

Visit the Nebraska Library Commission Website for News and Announcements.



Nebraska
Library
Commission

It's that time of the year!

Nebraska Public Library Accreditation

The purpose of public library accreditation is to encourage excellent library service in Nebraska communities.

Accreditation:

- establishes minimum standards for library service
- ensures that libraries adhere to certain standards
- offers libraries benchmarks
- offers libraries evidence that certain expenditures, services, and practices are needed and expected

The Accreditation process **begins in July** each year when invitations to apply are sent to public libraries up for reaccreditation and to libraries that have not been previously accredited but that have submitted the Public Libraries Survey for the preceding year. Completed Accreditation Applications are **due each October 1**.

Library Accreditation is valid for three years. In order to apply, the library must:

- have submitted the statistical report,
- know the library Bibliostat username and password, verify that the library meets the [12 minimum qualifications](#), and have an up-to-date [strategic plan](#), approved by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Accreditation and levels of accreditation are based on a system of accrued points. For each guideline on the Accreditation application, a library may earn a number of points. A total of 275 points is available. The library must earn at least 175 points to be accredited at the lowest, Bronze level. Accreditation at the Silver level requires 200 points, and at the Gold level, 250 points.

The guidelines are community-based, so that each library determines its own priorities based on community needs. This requires each library to have or to create a strategic plan that addresses the unique needs of its community.

See [Strategic Planning and Public Library Accreditation](#) for further information and help with strategic plans.

The Accreditation Application is organized into five categories:

- Governance/Planning
- Resources
- Services
- Cooperation/Collaboration
- Communications

Continued on page 4

Statistics that have been reported by the library in the [Public Libraries Survey](#) will automatically be filled in on the online accreditation application form, so the library will not have to re-report statistical measures. Because of this, each applying library must log in with a user name and password. For the sake of convenience, the same Bibliostat Collect username and password are used for both the annual public library statistics report and for the accreditation application form.

Instead of standards defined for arbitrary library size categories, nine of the guidelines use Peer Comparisons--that is, each library will be compared with libraries of similar size rather than being slotted into a predetermined population group as in past guidelines. The nine guidelines that use Peer comparisons are:

- 2.01 (local income),
- 2.02.01 (open hours),
- 2.03.01 (staff expenditures),
- 2.03.04 (staff FTE),
- 2.05.04 (materials expenditure),
- 2.05.05 (circulation),
- 2.05.06 (collection turnover),
- 2.05.07 (collection size, items per capita), and
- 3.04 (attendance per capita).

Peers are considered as libraries within 15% plus or minus of the Legal Service Population of the target library. Libraries will have the opportunity to meet either the average (mean) of the reported statistic for all Peers, or the median (i.e., the value lying at the midpoint when the statistics from peer libraries are arrayed in size order.) In cases in which there is not a sufficient number of libraries larger and smaller than the applying library, the sample may be expanded to one other state to ensure statistical reliability.

See the [Preview Application](#) here.

Use the live [Accreditation Application](#) when you have been invited to apply.

You can complete the application in more than one session by clicking the "Save and Resume Later" button at the bottom of the form.

Please contact Christa Porter with questions about Accreditation via [email](#) or at 402.471.3175.

Western Library System Public Library Accreditation Status

[Accreditation](#) of public libraries is a cyclical process, with approximately one-third of all libraries scheduled to apply for re-accreditation each year. The following link includes all Public Libraries (accredited and non-accredited). You can sort by System name and find the status of your public library.
This data is current as of 7/16/2017.

[List of all Nebraska Public Libraries](#) with their accreditation standing & next accreditation year.



NLA/NSLA Conference



2017 NLA/NSLA
Joint Conference

October
11-13

Younes
Conference
Center
Kearney, NE

PROVIDING ACCESS to the GOOD LIFE. FOR ALL.

NLA/NSLA Annual Conference Deadline to apply is August 14, 2017

Apply for up to \$150.00 for registration, mileage, meals, etc.

*****See WLS Scholarship Application on the next page**

The entire 2017 NLA/NSLA Conference program is available at:

<https://nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com/page/Neplib2017fullprogra>

As you review the program, we really hope you find several reasons to travel to Kearney this October, including the numerous librarians from the Western Library System presenting sessions on diverse topics.

NLA/NSLA has made all of their pre-conference workshops free and added extended professional workshops on Thursday morning as an added benefit for conference attendees.

Please take advantage of early bird pricing and register by August 15 at <https://nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=966227>, especially if you'd like to participate in either the Wednesday night trolley tour or the Thursday night escape room experience, both of which we expect to sell out fast.

If you are planning to spend at least one night with us (and we hope you are!), here is the hotel information: <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/?page=Neplib2017Hotel>. We have negotiated the excellent price of \$99/night at the conference hotels, so hurry and get a room while they last!

We hope to see you October 11 - 13, 2017 in Kearney, Nebraska!

Western Library System Scholarship Application

Would you like to attend a conference?

Would you like to go to MPLA?

Would you like to go to some of the meetings held around the state?

Do you need funding for attending a workshop?

WLS has scholarship money available

Up to \$150.00 per event for registration, mileage, meals, etc.

All member libraries are eligible

1. Each applicant must submit an application and letter any time prior to or up to two weeks before the event for which the scholarship is intended.
2. The Scholarship committee will review each application received.
3. The Committee has the right to adjust the amount requested depending on the budget and the number of applications received during the fiscal year.
4. Scholarships will be evaluated on a first- come, first- serve basis, and priority will be given to events within the state.
5. Individual applicants will be limited to requesting scholarships once in a three-year period. More than one request from the same library agency during a two-year period will need to be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.
6. Scholarship recipients are requested to provide a brief article about the event attended for the system newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity.

Send application and letter to: Western Library System

115 Railway Street

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Name: _____

Library/School/Agency: _____

Complete Address: _____

Phone & Email: _____

Date & Scholarship Activity: _____

Amount requested: _____

Who check should be made out to: _____



Database featured: MasterFILE Complete

Search popular magazines, journals, and other sources for info on a variety of topics.



Click on the [MasterFILE Complete](#) link to access EBSCO's MasterFILE Complete database. This database contains full text for magazines and journals covering an extensive range of subject areas including business, health, education, fitness, sports & leisure, personal finance, general science, multicultural issues, DIY, fashion and much more. Full-text reference books, primary source documents, and an extensive image collection are also included.



Contents:

- Full-text articles from more than 2,400 full text periodicals, magazines, and journals
- Over 1.4 million photos, maps, and flags
- Over 73,000 primary source documents
- Nearly 1,000 reference books
- Deep PDF backfiles (as far back as 1922) for key publications
- View Title List:

Journals & Magazines: [PDF](#) | [Excel](#) | [HTML](#)

Other Sources: [PDF](#) | [Excel](#) | [HTML](#)

Full Text Subject Title List: [PDF](#) | [Excel](#) | [HTML](#)

Uses:

- Look up information on topics of personal interest
- School research
- Professional development

Help Resources from the Nebraska Library Commission Staff:

[MasterFILE Complete](#)
[EBSCOhost Interface](#)
[Browser Requirements](#)

Help Resources from EBSCO:

[Browsing Subjects, People and Places](#)

If you have any questions contact: Allana Novotny, Technology & Access Services Librarian

Nebraska Library Commission allana.novotny@nebraska.gov

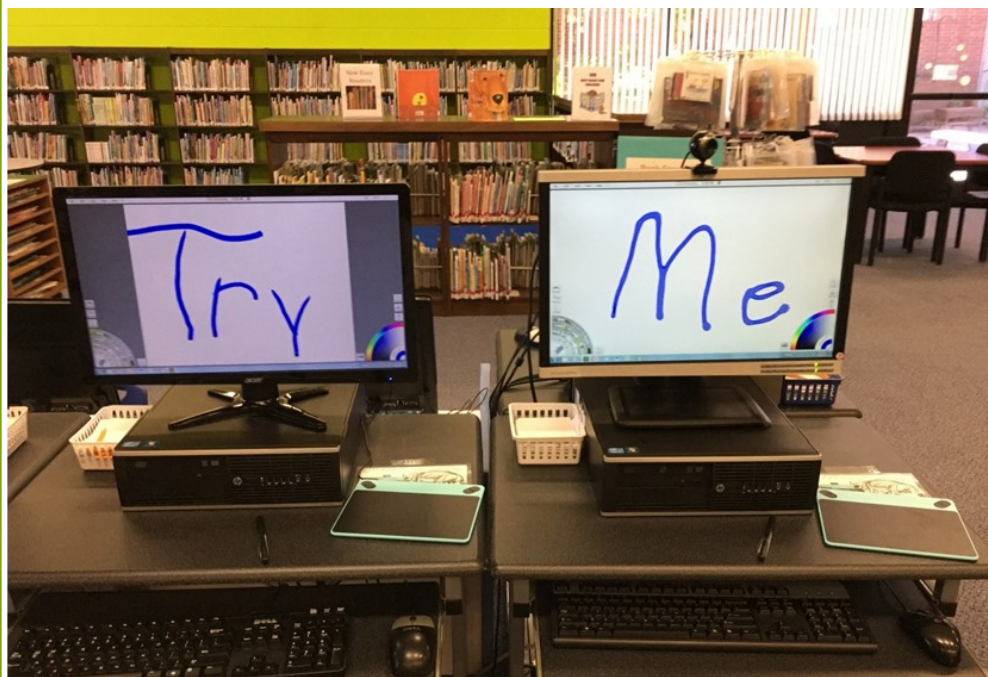
[800-307-2665](tel:800-307-2665) or [402-471-6681](tel:402-471-6681)



News Around The System

Intuos Draw - Digital Drawing Systems at the Sidney Public Library

With a mini-grant from the Western Library System, Sidney Public Library has purchased two WACOM Intuos Draw digital art bundles (<http://www.wacom.com/en-us/products/intuos>). These bundles are an entry level digital art system and come with the tablet, the Creative Pen stylus and the Artrage Lite software. The tablet and stylus are pressure sensitive allowing the “digital” artist to vary line weight and shade by varying the pressure they use. Combined with the Artrage Lite software, the digital artist can replicate drawing and painting digitally on a computer with a vast color pallet and tool set.



The acquisition and installation of the Intuos Draw system allows the Sidney Public Library to offer our community the opportunity to gain exposure and practice with the digital design technology that is prevalent in today's media and design industries. Combined with SPL's color laser printer and 3D printer, the sky's the limit for digital design at the library.

The Intuos Draw systems have been installed on two of the libraries PCs in the Children's Area. Having these set up side-by-side permits our budding digital artist to easily collaborate and experiment together as they master their use. To use the Intuos Draw systems, one must check out the stylus at the Circulation desk and return it when finished. Due to the expense (\$30) of replacement stylus, we thought this would be the best method to ensure they are not lost. This sign has been placed at both workstations and on the digital bulletin board.

The availability of the Intuos Draw systems has been announced to the community via Facebook and will also be announced via the local paper and the library's monthly radio promo. A program to instruct the community in their use will also be scheduled. Going forward, we hope to make them available for use outside of the library by pairing them with laptop PC so they can be checked out as a mobile creative system.



Checkout the Drawing Stylus from the Front Desk and return it when finished.

Article and photos provided by Andrew Sherman, Director of Sidney Public Library

News Around The System

WLS Mini-Grant: Community Christian School

What an amazing honor it was to receive the \$500 Mini-Grant from WLS. Our Library System was approximately a decade old. It has worked great for us, but the company decided to discontinue service, which caused many issues. The main problem was that in order to add a new book to our Library we would have to manually type in all of the data. We tried it for a while, but soon found that not only was it extremely time consuming, it was also frustrating. With the help of the grant, we were able to purchase a new system that allows us to input books with just a simple scan! It also helped streamline the check in/check out process and help us better keep track of the books we already have. The kids also love the new system and all that it has to offer them.

The students now have access to our library in ways they never have before and a completely new world of possibilities is open to us with e-books! Since we do not have to spend long periods of time entering new books into the system, we are starting a mini-makeover on our library. We are so excited for this fresh new look and are anticipating a newfound love of the library when the students arrive this fall! Our new system is saving us a large amount of time and helping us to focus more energy into the actual library and the students.

Thank you so much WLS for this huge blessing!

Article provided by Shannon Goss,
Office Manager, Community Christian School

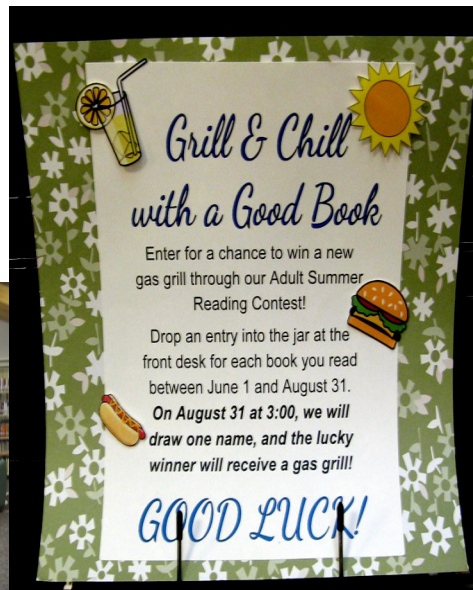
Alliance Public Library Happenings



Themed backpacks filled with books and activities for all the little minions!



Alliance Public Library Adult Reader's are Grillin' & Chillin' out over this prize grill for the winner of the Adult Summer Reading Contest!!!



Photos by Pat Gross



Alien themed display to introduce space studies, just in time for their upcoming total eclipse program on August 21, 2017



Jan Jolliffe's Meet and Greet with Stephanie O'Connor, Director of the Alliance Public Library

News Around The System

WLS Mini-Grant: Kimball Public Library - Club Next

The Kimball Public Library used the \$300 grant money for the after school program Club Next. Three years ago, the library partnered with the Kimball-Banner County Extension to provide a weekly one hour long program for K-3 grade students from September through April. This year the Kimball Public Schools provided bussing to bring the children to the library and the attendance doubled!

The curriculum for the program this year centered on engineering and technology. The after school sessions focused on technology the second half of the school year and specifically on coding and the online resource code.org was used. Coding games and books were purchased with the money as well as some craft supplies like beads when the children learned binary code and made necklaces, headbands and bracelets.



Thank you Western Library Systems Board of Directors for this generous grant!



Article and photos provided by Leta J. Liesch, Assistant Librarian/Youth Services of Kimball Public Library

WLS Mini-Grant: Palisade Public Library - Exploring Creativity



The Palisade Public Library has always had the Mission Statement: We are here to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge and strengthen our community.

The gift of the \$500 WLS Mini-Grant was a true blessing. The library was able to purchase a kids table and chairs, zoob building kit, connectagons books, crafts, movies, prizes and snacks for the 2017 Build a Better World, Summer Story Hour. The idea was to encourage exploration, creativity and working together. What a success it was. The kids were amazing!!! Our biggest hope is that the things we all read and did in Summer Story Hour will carry on

into these children's future endeavors and may they all have nothing but success! This year the Summer Story Hour was in jeopardy of not happening due to funds being low.



The WLS grant gave the Palisade Library the opportunity to share many new and exciting things with the children in the community. Everyone, including the adults, truly had a lot of fun! We listened to some fantastic stories



about machines, building play grounds, community gardens volunteering, working together, and many other amazing things. We built our own city sky scrapers out of cookies and frosting, built buildings, sky scrapers and more out of our zoobs and connectagons, whatever the kid's imagination could come up with. One set of kids even built a robot; another set of kids built a bridge. The kids got their picture taken with a Bob the Builder cutout, a friend of the library made (Rebecca Ann Seybold). The library and community is so very grateful for this gift. Putting it into words does not give justice to our thank you!

Article and photos provided by Cindee Wagner, Director of Palisade Public Library

Café

The Most Unlikely Place...a place to lift the spirit and feed the soul.

Quoted June 25, 2017 from <http://www.themostunlikelyplace.com/>

Dennis Miller, artist, owner and storyteller extraordinaire gave us a glimpse into the background of his family's art gallery and café, along with insight on how his mother, Lewellen's own Librarian, influenced their lives and interest in revitalizing their small community.

Woodworking

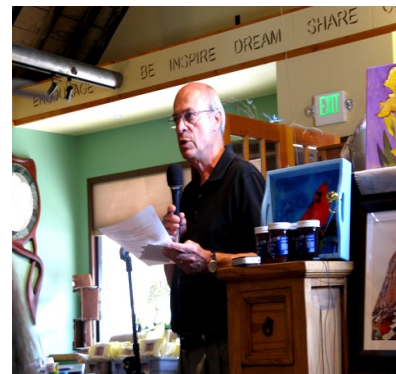
Art Gallery



Maryruth Reed, Western Library System Board President, conveyed the Maryruth Reed "First Last and Only Presidential Award For Making Her Job Easier While We Searched For A New Director" to our own Pat Gross, Interim Director of the Western Library System.



Pat Gross, (left) enjoying the company of Ruth Walker, Laurie Bauer, Jan Jolliffe, Nancy Armstrong, Sandy White, Kathy Terrell and Vickie Retzlaff.



Rod Wagner, Nebraska Library Commission Director, reported on the past year and what the future holds for our Western Library System.



Elaine Bleisch, Wally Seiler, Stephanie O'Connor, Tom Price, Tiffany Hickox

**Thank you all
for attending!**



Lisa Fortkamp, Beth Falla



Carol Kyser, Eileen Nightingale, Franki Beeken, Sandy Nelson, Dianne Jay, Nancy Rochlitz

Continued on page 13

Photos provided by Pat Gross, Interim Director, Western Library System

News Around The System

Librarian pictures continued



Carole Matthews, Allison Reisig, Jill Ellis, Terry Christensen, Allison Roberts, Diane Wagner, Rod Wagner. In the background is Christine Egger and Ruth Walker



Thank you Carole Matthews, WLS Board Member, for the folded books, along with Jennifer Wohl for the framed centerpiece quotes!!!



**Lyman Public Librarians: Back: Donna Payne, Keitha Green, Jackie Stoeger
Front: Wyndee Green**



Ila Anderson, Board Member for Mitchell Public Library



Jeannette Thompson, Becky Henkel, Diane Downer, Andrew "Sherm" Sherman, Tammy Howitt-Covalt

Gering and Scottsbluff Wrap-Up Party



Gering and Scottsbluff Librarians, along with Nikki-Catrina Anderson, Miss Scotts Bluff County 2017



Kevin Hornor, Ventriloquist, performed a program on bullying for the summer readers of Gering and Scottsbluff Libraries for their collaborative wrap-up party.





****Note for Nebraska Libraries:**

The Nebraska Library Commission has received a shipment of Eclipse viewing glasses for free distribution:

- Only **libraries that are hosting Eclipse events** are eligible to receive free glasses
- Libraries are welcome to request and pick up glasses directly from the Library Commission in Lincoln.
- Contact [Mary Jo Ryan](#) at the Nebraska Library Commission.
- Regional Systems will have glasses available for public libraries at upcoming annual meetings.



If you are needing resources for your 2017 Eclipse Across America Experience checkout Mary Sauers postings on the NLC Blog.

Mary has a posting every week containing links to lots of resources as we count down to the August 21, 2017 eclipse. Check them out at the following links:

[Part 1: Images and Videos, Media Toolkits, and Downloadables](#)

[Part 2: Educational Resources](#)

[Part 3: Eclipse Programming and Activity Ideas for your Library](#)

Please note that ESU schools in the Western Library System already have Eclipse viewing glasses available from their ESU. Because you are a member library of WLS you can use all resources posted on NLC website.

Be sure to watch the NCompass session airing July 26, 2017

[Solar Eclipse 2017 @ Your Library](#)



**Nebraska
Library
Commission**

Nebraska Librarians Invited to Host Programs and Exhibits in Connection with New Ken Burns Film: The Vietnam War

Ken Burns and Lynn Novick's ten-part, eighteen-hour documentary series, *The Vietnam War*, airs Sunday, September 17 through Thursday, September 21 and Sunday, September 24 through Thursday, September 28 at 7:00 p.m. CT on PBS. Nebraska librarians are invited to take advantage of opportunities to host programs and exhibits in connection



with the documentary. In an immersive narrative, Burns and Novick tell the epic story of the Vietnam War as it has never before been told on film, featuring testimony from nearly eighty witnesses, including many Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as Vietnamese combatants and civilians from both the winning and losing sides. Learn more about the film at <http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/the-vietnam-war/home/>.

Check out these opportunities:

Public libraries are invited to **apply by August 1** to receive a programming kit for *The Vietnam War*, a ten-part documentary film by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick that will air on PBS stations. Fifty public libraries will be selected, through a competitive application process, to receive the kit, which will include a programming guide and a copy of the full 18-hour documentary series on DVD, with public performance rights. The kit will help libraries participate in a national conversation about one of the most consequential, divisive and controversial events in American history. Recipients will also receive promotional materials, online resources developed to support local programs, opportunities for partnership with local PBS station(s), and more. Participating libraries will be required to host at least one program related to the film before Jan. 1, 2018, along with other promotional and reporting requirements. View the full project guidelines:

<https://apply.ala.org/thevietnamwar/guidelines> or begin your online application: <https://apply.ala.org/TheVietnamWar>. (ALA's Public Programs Office and WETA Productions.) See <http://www.programminglibrarian.org/articles/apply-now-vietnam-war-programming-kit-opportunity>. Contact: Sarah Ostman, Communications Manager, Public Programs Office, American Library Association, 312-280-5061, sostman@ala.org.

- Nebraska libraries are invited to host programs, local panel discussions and conversations, screenings of a short version of the documentary, and exhibits in connection with the New Ken Burns Film: *The Vietnam War*. Libraries are encouraged to reach out to local veteran's organizations and other local groups to partner on activities leading up to the September 17 screening. Materials and resources will be available from the Nebraska NET website. See <http://www.pbs.org/video/3001104790> for a highlight video and <http://netnebraska.org/Vietnam> for more information. NET is currently arranging for screenings (to be followed by a 45 minute panel discussion) in communities across Nebraska, see list at bottom of this message. Resources will soon be available to assist libraries in other communities in setting up local screenings and community conversations. Contact: Sandi Karstens, NET Communications Coordinator, 1800 N. 33rd St., Lincoln, NE 68503, 402-470-6578, skarstens@netnebraska.org.
- If your book group hasn't read the 2015 One Book One Nebraska selection, this is the perfect time to suggest it. *Death Zones & Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting* by Beverly Deepe Kever was Nebraska's choice for the 2015 One Book One Nebraska statewide reading program and the Nebraska Library Commission has multiple copies for libraries across Nebraska to borrow. In this book, Beverly Deepe Kever describes what it was like for a farm girl from Nebraska to find herself halfway around the world, trying to make sense of one of the nation's bloodiest and bitterest wars. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities are available at <http://onebook.nebraska.gov/2015/get-involved.aspx>. Order book club kits from the Nebraska Library Commission at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/ref/bookclub/index.asp> or from the Regional Library Systems.

Nebraska NET Screenings and Discussion Locations Confirmed: Lincoln, Omaha, Falls City, Ogallala, Hastings, Grand Island, North Platte, Fremont, Norfolk, and Scottsbluff.



Nebraska
Library
Commission

For more information contact Mary Jo Ryan, Nebraska Library Commission, maryjo.ryan@nebraska.gov.

Posted on [June 25, 2017](#) by [Mary Jo Ryan](#)

Librarians Around The System



Library Commissioners Meeting

Stephanie Mika, Office Manager at Sidney Public Library, joined Sandy White, Nebraska Library Commission Member, and Andrew “Sherm” Sherman (not pictured), for the Nebraska Library Commission Meeting via their Videoconference site at Sidney Public Library on June 30, 2017. Also in attendance were Pat Gross, WLS Interim Director and Jan Jolliffe, new WLS Director.

You may view the Library Commissioner's Meeting Agendas and Minutes at:

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/Commissioners/Agendas/June2017agenda.pdf>

Information for your benefit:

Related pages to help with Public Library Accreditation:

[Strategic Planning and Public Library Accreditation](#)

[Public Library Accreditation FAQs](#)

[12 Minimum Qualifications](#)

[Accreditation Program History](#)

[Sample Accreditation Application](#)

[List of all Nebraska Public Libraries](#) with their accreditation standing & next accreditation year

[Public Libraries Statistical Survey](#)

Watch for an opportunity this fall to apply for a grant

Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund Read the Omaha World Hearld May 21, 2017 article “Students in Kimball explore new dimensions thanks to local library and visionary patron” at the following link: [Omaha World Hearld Kimball Public Library](#).

CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries guides you through the weeding process and why it is so important to continuously weed your library. Use the following link:

<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/sites/default/files/public/tslac/ld/pubs/crew/crewmeth08.pdf>

23rd Annual Joint Youth Services Retreat Information



The 23rd Annual Youth Services Retreat will be held at Camp Carol Joy Holling September 7th and 8th. Take a break and spend time learning and networking in a great atmosphere! Eleven CE are available for attendance both days. [Click here to register.](#) The schedule for the retreat and pricing are as follows:

Thursday, September 7

7:30-8:30 Breakfast for those who arrived on site Wednesday evening

8:30 – 9:00 Registration for those arriving Thursday morning

9:00 – 9:50 Author Talk with Andrea Warren

How do you write nonfiction history that will engage young readers and also find its place in classrooms and libraries? Andrea Warren will share her planning and writing process and some of the pitfalls she's encountered while creating eight award-winning nonfiction books for readers ages ten and up. Her titles include Orphan Train Rider: One Boy's True Story, Charles Dickens and the Street Children of London, and Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps.

10:00-10:50 Great Books for Tweens and Teens with Sally Snyder

There's always some new treasure to be discovered during Sally's showcase of books!

11:00-11:50 Why Diverse Literature Matters for Youth Services with Erica Rose

Discussion will focus on the need for robust representation of cultures, religions, and lifestyles in our book collections. A key part of this topic includes a conversation regarding the effects of exposing young readers to diverse literature and why this is important.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 Crowdfunding: "Booktalk" Your favorite websites and resources

In this session, retreat participants will be the presenters. Each person will have a few minutes to present favorite websites, resources, program and craft ideas. If you go on too long...

2:45 – 3:45 Great Books for Children with Amy Wenzl

This session will focus on recommended books for grades K-6 published in 2017 as well as a few lesser known gems from recent years.

4:00 – 6:00 Technology and Textiles Meet at Your Library with Megan Boggs and Joseph Chapman

This session explores activities and programs libraries can sponsor and promote to help young patrons learn basic principles of engineering design, such as electricity and circuitry that they can then apply to create LED encrusted bracelets and other items.

6:00 – 7:00 Dinner

7:00 – 10:00 Time to exchange ideas, hang out, play games

Continued on page 18

Friday, September 8

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast

8:30–9:00 Registration for those arriving on Friday

9:00 – 9:50 Using YA Literature to Inspire Teen Girls' Interests in STEM with Melissa Cast

If Hunger Games can inspire young women to take up the bow and arrow, then surely other young adult (YA) titles can inspire enthusiasm for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). This program will discuss the role of YA fiction in teen development and specific YA titles to encourage STEM interests with teen girls.

10:00 – 10:50 Betwixt and Between with Morgan Reeves

Want ideas for programs for Tweens? Pay special attention during this workshop, as ideas as diverse as Book to Movie Club, Cupcake Wars, Literary Legos, and LittleBits Circuit Inventions are presented.

11:00-11:50 Answer Time

Pick the collective brain! This is a chance to ask questions of the group. Questions can be about anything relating to your library job in the area of youth services. Remember, there is no stupid question!

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 Creating a Culture of Play with Debora B. Wisneski, Professor of Early Childhood Education, UNO

A community that values and supports play across the lifespan is a community that also enhances the well-being of its citizens and creates the climate for innovation, learning, and civic engagement. Learn about one partnership to promote play.

2:30 – 3:00 Giveaways, Evaluations

We must leave the premises by 3:00 pm.

REGISTRATION CHOICES:

- Thursday only, includes lunch (\$55)
- Friday only, includes lunch (\$50)
- Both days with overnight, double occupancy, includes all meals (\$130)
- Both days with overnight, single occupancy, includes all meals (\$160)
- Both days with lunch (\$105)
- Stay overnight Wednesday evening, September 6, includes breakfast (Additional \$80). Arrive between 6 pm and 8 pm to pick up keys.

Please note that Thursday, September 7th sign-in starts at 8:30 and sessions run 9:00 – 6:00. On Friday, September 8th sign-in begins at 8:30 and sessions run 9:00 – 2:30.

Please complete registration by August 18th. Checks should be addressed to Southeast Library System, 5730 R St, Ste C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505.

Also, because Camp Carol Joy Holling is now trying to be much more accommodating to its guests, there is no longer a dietary needs policy. Please contact Chef Orestes Cooper directly at ocooper@nlom.org with any needs.

Information posted [May 24, 2017](#) by Todd Schlechte,
Assistant Director, Southeast Library System

News Around The System

Leyton Public School Library

says...

*Thank You



(Above, Golden Sower books arrived, not yet cataloged)

The Golden Sower Program is a state award that promotes awareness about reading and writing excellence. This awareness enables the community to be aware of the materials being used in the library to promote state award nominees. Leyton Public School was missing out on a comprehensive state literary award program that promotes lifelong skills due to a lack of current and past Golden Sower Award nominees and winners in our library inventory. Thanks to the Western Library System; Leyton Elementary/Junior High and High School now has numerous Golden Sower nominees and winners available to our students, staff, and community. The Golden Sower program promotes active student involvement when Implemented into the library curriculum. Program involvement encourages teachers and students to invest their time reading and reviewing print materials. The Golden Sower program also presents opportunities for cross-curricular learning. Once the book has been read, there are various tie-in activities in areas such as geography, technology, writing, etc. The award represents the state by being symbolic of our agricultural background. The Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) provides background information on their website discussing the objectives the program hopes to instill in Nebraska readers. A summary of what the award hopes to instill are stimulation of thinking, being introduced to different literature genres, independent reading and skills, and fostering an appreciation for writing and illustrating excellence (NLC, n.d.).

We are so thankful to now have this quality literature available to our students and staff because of the generosity of the WLS. We appreciate your assistance with our project and can't wait to read these new titles in the 2017-2018 school year.

Photo and Article submitted by Dana Morgan, K-12 Librarian at Leyton Public Schools.

Librarians Around The System

Gering Public Library Summer Reading Programming



Ryan Bosche and daughter enjoying the Discovery Area activities and information tables in conjunction with the Gering Public Library Summer Reading Program.



Table top activities provide informational games for our summer readers to learn about animal behaviors and habitats.

Animal Gross-Out at the Zoo

Riverside Discovery Center, June 28



Dinosaur fossil dig with Christie Clark, Gering Public Library Youth Services Librarian

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library Summer Reading Program



Better Builders Bootcamp Library Park, June 28



Morrill Public Library and Museum Open House during Horsecreek Rendezvous Day with Sarah Alfred and Pete Cawiezel.

WLS Board of Directors:

Maryruth Reed, President

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Jill Hurtt, Secretary

Tammy Howitt-Covalt

Carole Matthews

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Allison Reisig

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Counties Served:

Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, Sioux, Hooker, McPherson, Perkins, Chase, Dundy, Hayes, and Hitchcock

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Toll Free:
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Webpage:

<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/>

**Board of Directors bi-monthly meeting
minutes are available on the Western
Library System website**

<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/>

**You Can
Build A Better World™
By**

**Attending the NLA/NSLA
Fall Conference
Oct 11-13 Kearney**

**More information on page 2
[Conference Information](#)**

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